

How to Play

Blues

on
the

Harmonica



also
Amusing
Harmonica
Novelty
Effects
and
Tricks

A
5 - *minute*
Instruction
Course

PRICE

25¢

ILLUSTRATIONS and easy-to-understand directions make it possible for anyone to perform "blues" and other novelties on the Harmonica in a few minutes.



To the Harmonica Player Who Wants to Learn "MORE"



The harmonica is a musical instrument of infinite variety.

Some of its possibilities are here brought out for the first time—with simple directions and explanatory illustrations.

Learn to play "blues," learn these amusing harmonica tricks and novelty effects—by this new easy self-teaching method—and you will derive just that much more pleasure out of your harmonica playing.

M. M. COLE PUBLISHING COMPANY

HOW TO PLAY "BLUES"

"Blues" effects on the Harmonica consist of a choking, throaty tone that fits in very well with popular and jazz melodies.



**Correct Way to Hold Harmonica
for Playing Blues**

How to Hold Harmonica for "Blues" Effect

Use a single reed Harmonica. Hold as in the illustration to the left. Place tightly against lips. If difficulty is encountered in securing "blue" notes according to the following directions, then pour a little cold water into the Harmonica. Then shake instrument until it is clear.

DOWN MOVEMENT



Down Movement

Blow into the Harmonica in the usual way. Gradually move the back of the Harmonica downward as illustrated. At the same time try to "choke" the tone by producing a suction with the tongue and lip.

UPWARD MOVEMENT

In the same manner as the downward movement, move the back of the Harmonica upward, at the same time "choking" the tone by producing a suction between the lip and tongue. See illustration to the right.



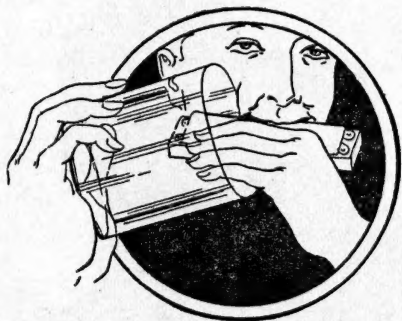
Upward Movement

PRACTICE COMPLETE MOVEMENT

Now try the complete up and down movement, at the same time "choking the tone" as previously described. Try to play a few melodies, bringing in the "blue" notes at opportune times. If you find it hard to produce the correct "blue" tone at first, do not become discouraged. It will come with a little practice.



HOW TO SECURE A BEAUTIFUL TONE



Study the illustration to the left carefully. Place a glass tumbler over the right end of the Harmonica and against the cheek. By moving the glass in a very slow shaking movement the tone is enhanced to a great degree.

HOW TO PLAY UP AND DOWN



Use any Harmonica.

Place the instrument close to your lips, but in an upright position. The bass notes are downward, the higher notes upward.

Blow and draw gently, until by moving the Harmonica up and down you can play all the notes clearly. Then play a melody.

Remember—you must keep the Harmonica tightly pressed against your lips.

HOW TO "TREMOLO" THE HARMONICA



Cup the hands about the Harmonica as shown in illustration above. By removing and placing again in the right hand fingers very rapidly, beautiful effects may be obtained. It must be remembered to close the right hand over the left in such a way that it leaves a cup air chamber formed by the hollow of the hand. The tremolo effect is brought about by the opening and closing of this air chamber. Practice this very thoroughly and you will be surprised at the results. This effect combined with "tongueing" the chords is really the best Harmonica playing.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA LIKE AN ACCORDION

FIRST:



Above Illustration Shows How to Place
Harmonica in Paper

Use any single reed Harmonica. This trick requires the use of an entire newspaper, or at least a complete section of one.

Fold the paper once. Place the Harmonica on the folded edge of the paper so that the holes face outward. Wrap the folded edge of the paper completely around the sides of the Harmonica, exposing only the holes and a narrow margin for the lips. See illustration.



Above Illustration Shows How to Place
in Mouth

SECOND:

Place Harmonica in mouth as shown in illustration to the left. Now play several pieces. Note the accordion-like tone. This is a very effective novelty and can be used to great advantage by a skillful player.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA LIKE A FLUTE



Use any Harmonica with an open back.

Place several thin layers of paper above and below the reeds and the outer covering of the Harmonica.

A little experimenting will be required to determine the proper quantity of paper for the tone desired.

HOW TO PRODUCE "SCOTCH BAGPIPE" EFFECT



Use a "Little Lady" Harmonica. (A Harmonica with four holes, in the key of A.) This trick should be presented with the assistance of a violinist.

The violinist plays a steady drone on the "A" string, gradually taking the time of the Harmonica player.

Place the little Harmonica well into your mouth. Play some simple Scotch ballad, like "The Campbells' Are Coming." By repeating it two or three times and always ending on the highest note of the Harmonica the bagpipe effect can be produced.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA AND UKULELE AT SAME TIME

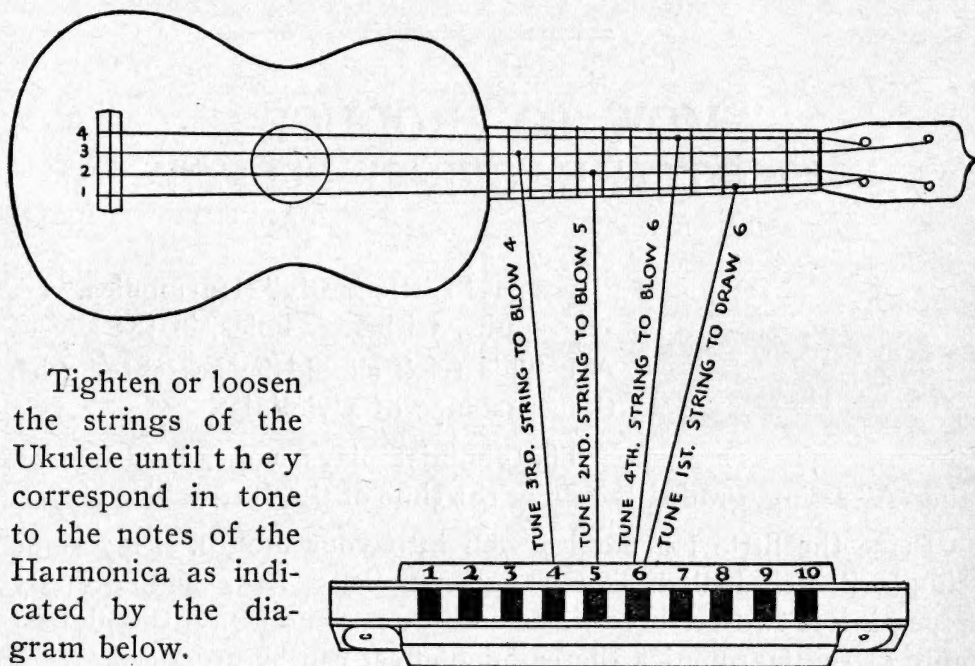
Secure Harmonica Holder

Purchase or make a Harmonica holder which when placed over your shoulders holds the Harmonica in position so that you have free use of your hands.

Use any single reed Harmonica in the key of D.

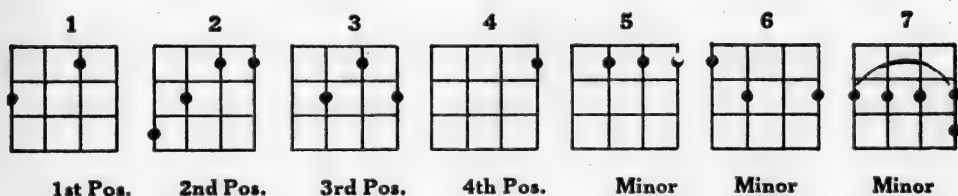


TUNE UKULELE TO HARMONICA



Tighten or loosen the strings of the Ukulele until they correspond in tone to the notes of the Harmonica as indicated by the diagram below.

THEN LEARN THESE CHORDS



For complete instructions for playing the Ukulele, see the illustrated "Five-Minute Ukulele Course."

PLAY MELODY ON HARMONICA ACCOMPANY WITH UKULELE

Make sure that your Ukulele is in tune with your Harmonica. After you have mastered the Ukulele chords shown above, you can play simple melodies on the Harmonica and accompanying chords on the Ukulele.

If you cannot fit in the proper chords by ear, it is advisable to secure a Ukulele Instruction Book, which will tell you what chords to play and when to play them.

The "Five-Minute" Ukulele Book is recommended as the most simple and effective Ukulele instruction book on the market.

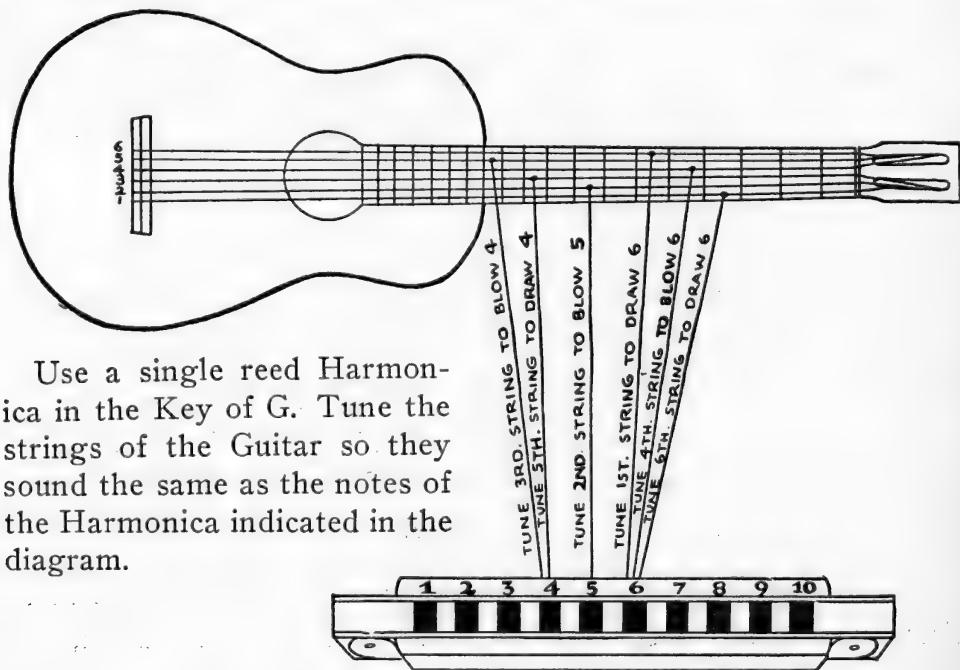


HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA AND GUITAR AT SAME TIME

Secure Harmonica Holder

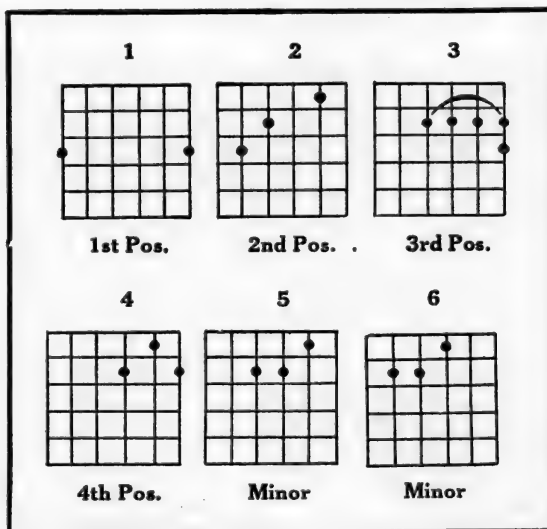
Purchase or make a Harmonica holder, which, when placed over shoulders holds the Harmonica in position so that the hands are free to play the Guitar.

TUNE GUITAR WITH HARMONICA



Use a single reed Harmonica in the Key of G. Tune the strings of the Guitar so they sound the same as the notes of the Harmonica indicated in the diagram.

THEN LEARN THESE CHORDS



For complete instructions for playing the Guitar, see the illustrated "Five-Minute Guitar Course."

PLAY MELODY ON HARMONICA--- ACCOMPANY WITH GUITAR

Make sure your Guitar is in tune with your Harmonica. Then play simple melodies on the Harmonica and accompanying chords on the Guitar.

If you cannot fit in the proper chords by ear, it is advisable to secure a Guitar instruction book, which will show you what chords to play and when to play them.

The illustrated "Five-Minute Guitar Course" is recommended as the most simple and effective Guitar instruction book on the market.

HOW TO PLAY TWO HARMONICAS AT ONE TIME



**Position of Harmonica When Placing
in Mouth**

FIRST:

Use two single reed Harmonicas in the same key. Hold one Harmonica in each hand, so that the high notes are toward the palms of your hands. Place the instrument in your left hand to your lips so that part of the Harmonica protrudes from your mouth. See illustration. Play gently for several seconds.

SECOND:



Then very quickly remove from your mouth the instrument in your left hand, and at the same instant slip into position the Harmonica which you are holding in your right hand. Try not to interrupt what you are playing.

Alternate the two instruments as frequently as you wish but keep correct time.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA WITH UKULELE OR GUITAR

Without a Holder



Use a 34-B key of F Harmonica. This style has a closed back and will not cut the lips. If a little adhesive is placed over the bass end of the Harmonica, the instrument will be more secure in your mouth.

Now place the Harmonica in your mouth so that the bass notes are inside your mouth and the other half of the instrument is protruding. Your tongue must rest against the bass notes.

By moving the tongue up and down over these notes and drawing and blowing properly, you can play a ballad like "My Old Kentucky Home."

Accompany yourself on the Ukulele.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA UNDER A GLASS



Use any Harmonica, although a 34-B is best.

Procure an ordinary drinking glass.

Place the harmonica well inside your mouth, your tongue against the lower or bass notes, and allow the upper half of the instrument to protrude from your mouth.

Then take the glass and invert it over the Harmonica between your nose and chin, balancing it by tilting your head well back.

By moving your tongue up and down over the bass notes, while inhaling and exhaling or blowing and drawing, the desired effect will be produced. Play "Home, Sweet Home" for this trick.

HOW TO PLAY HARMONICA THROUGH YOUR EAR



"Palm "Little Lady" Harmonica in Left Hand

Use a "Little Lady" Harmonica and also a larger instrument. Conceal the tiny Harmonica in the palm of your left hand.

Then casually pass your hand over your mouth, placing the little instrument well inside your mouth.

SLIP SMALL HARMONICA INTO MOUTH

Next take the large Harmonica in your right hand and place it across your right ear.

Before executing the actual trick, you should breathe very hard several times to make it appear extremely difficult to force your breath out through your ear.

When the audience is sufficiently impressed, play something on the tiny Harmonica concealed in your mouth.

It sometimes helps to introduce this trick with a scientific explanation of the air passages between the nose and ear.

HOW TO PLAY WHILE DANCING

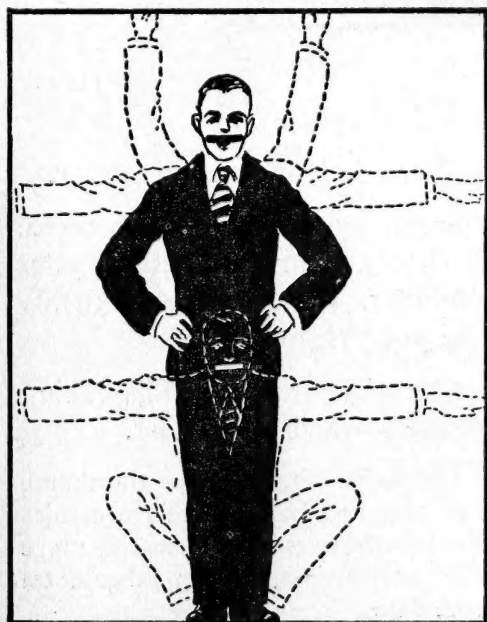
With adhesive and some ordinary elastic, make a Harmonica holder which will slip over your head and hold your instrument fairly well in place.

With this device, two people can execute any kind of partner dance, folk dance, reel or jig, playing their own accompaniment as they do so.

The use of castanets adds greatly to a dance performed by a Harmonica player.



ANOTHER NOVELTY EFFECT



Use any single reed Harmonica.

Practice holding the Harmonica in your mouth for short intervals without the aid of your hands.

Next try arm movements, side-ward, upward and forward while playing, bringing the hands back to the Harmonica in rhythm.

Next practice bending the trunk forward, holding the Harmonica in your mouth without the aid of your hands, and playing as you bend.

By combining marching, marking time, free exercises of arms and legs, trunk bending, etc., with Harmonica playing, a very interesting effect can be produced.

AN AMUSING NOVELTY EFFECT!

Play Harmonica Through a Hose



Use any single reed Harmonica.

Procure four feet of rubber tubing one-half inch in diameter.

Place one end of the tube in your mouth between your teeth. Bring the other end over your left shoulder, around behind your neck and down over your right shoulder. Grasp this end firmly between the thumb and forefinger of your right hand.

Lay the Harmonica flat on the palm of your left hand, placing the instrument so that the low notes are toward your wrist.

Now place the end of the tube, which you are holding between the thumb and forefinger of your right hand, directly over any hole of the Harmonica that you wish to play. After you can blow or draw one hole clearly, move the end of the tube gently up and down the Harmonica, playing other notes in the same way. Lastly, try playing some tune.





The Famous 5-minute Courses

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